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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Roche, *et al.*
Serial No.: 09/559,223
Filing Date: April 26, 2000
Title: "SYSTEM FOR FULFILLING AN INFORMATION NEED"

Examiner: Toh
Art Unit:
Atty. Docket No.: 2001323-0009

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AUG 01 2002

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Applicant submits the following Preliminary Amendment and Remarks, pursuant to our phone call today, July 16, 2002, during which you pointed out to me that we filed the application with two (2) claims numbered "26". Thank you for the notification. After further review, I noticed we also have two (2) claims numbered "38", the second of which should properly be "39".

Amendment

Kindly amend the application as follows.

In the Claims:

Please cancel the second claim numbered "26", beginning on line 1 of page 57.

Please renumber the second claim numbered "38", beginning on line 29 of page 59, to be "39".

Please add the following claim (corresponding to the canceled claim 26):

"147. The method of claim 25, wherein the ranking step comprises:

ranking a located match or a portion thereof based on the content of a majority of documents identified in the identifying step."

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Sir:

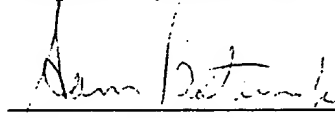
Enclosed please find the following documents in connection with the above-referenced patent application:

1. Preliminary Amendment (2 pages);
2. Return-receipt postcard.

Kindly change your records to reflect our new Attorney Docket No. from "2001323-00XX" to "2001323-0009".

Authorization is granted to charge all filing fees due to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,


John A. Hamilton
Registration No.: 48,946

Choate, Hall & Stewart
Exchange Place
53 State Street
Boston, MA 02109
617/248-5000
Dated: July 17, 2002

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

on 7-17-02
